

**F. H. STOLTZE LAND & LUMBER COMPANY****Lumber Manufacturers**

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Affiliations:

Charter Member

February 19, 2007

Chairman and Members
House Natural Resource Committee
State of Montana
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Chairman McNutt:

In a few days you will be considering HB557, which will help clarify where zoning may condition or prohibit sand and gravel operations.

Our Company owns 8,000+ acres of timberland in Flathead County that was declared residential under the current 76-2-209, MCA. This occurred because these lands were part of a Neighborhood Plan area. The Neighborhood Plan had already addressed how to handle gravel pits as a conditional use, which works well. The new Flathead County resolution gave the power to "prohibit" which greatly increased the impact of the law change.

I encourage you to adopt HB557. If you have questions, please call.

Sincerely yours,

F.H. STOLTZE LAND & LUMBER CO.

Ronald Buentemeier
Vice-President/General Manager

RB/hl

CC: To All Committee Members
Ellen Engstedt - MWPA
Keith Olson - MLA
Don Allen - WETA
Cary Hegreberg - MT Contractors Assoc.

Flathead Valley



Member Since 1966